

Message Text

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JCS WASHDC
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CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENG
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
ALL NATO CAPITALS
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 06629

E.O.11652:GDS
TAGS: OCON, NATO, MILI
SUBJECT; AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY -
JULY 6, 1977 MEETING
SUMMARY: ON JULY 6, THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUIPMENT
INTEROPERABILITY (AHC) DISCUSSED (1) THE PROGRESS REPORT BY
WORKING GROUP ONE ON COMMUNICATIONS (AC/297-D/33), (2)
TASKING CNAD WITH FOLLOWUP WORK ON WEAPONS LOADING TRIALS
FOR NEW WEAPONS AND AIRCRAFT, (3) PROCEDURES TO ENSURE
ADEQUATE INTEROPERABILITY OF FUTURE EQUIPMENT, AND (4) THE
RELATIONSHIP OF THE NATO LONG-TERM INITIATIVES TO THE FUTURE
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OF THE AHC. END SUMMARY.

1. THE AHC DISCUSSED THE PROGRESS REPORT BY WORKING GROUP
ONE ON COMMUNICATIONS, AC/297-D/33. ONE RECOMMENDATION IN
THE WG/1 REPORT IS THAT THE WORKING GROUP COMPLETE THE FIRST
PHASE OF THE STUDY ON TACTICAL RADIO EQUIPMENT BEFORE PAS-
SING THE FOLLOW-ON PHASES OF THE STUDY TO THE TRI-SERVICE

GROUP ON COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT (TSGCEE). THE NETHERLANDS REPRESENTATIVE (BUWALDA), SUPPORTED BY THE US REPRESENTATIVE (LEGERE), AGREED TO THE RECOMMENDATION BUT ASKED THAT THE RECORD SHOW THAT THE EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE OF THE FIRST PHASE IS SEPTEMBER 1977. THE AHC THEN AGREED ALL RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REPORT.

2. IN AN ORAL STATEMENT, THE CHAIRMAN (DSYG PANSA) CALLED ATTENTION TO SECDEF BROWN'S PROPOSAL AT THE DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING IN MAY 1977, CONCERNING ACCELERATING INTEROPERABILITY OF TACTICAL AREA COMMUNICATIONS. PANSA SAID THAT, SINCE WG/1 HAD ALREADY REPORTED ON THE SUBJECT AND IS NOW WORKING ON TACTICAL RADIO EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY, AND, SINCE THE US PROPOSAL IS NOT IN CONFLICT WITH THE EARLIER WG/1 RECOMMENDATIONS, HE BELIEVED, AND THE ASYG(DEFENSE SUPPORT) AGREED, THAT THE TSGCEE SHOULD PERFORM THE ANALYSIS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSAL. THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE (DE LA FERRIERE) VOICED MILD OBJECTION TO THE WAY THE MATTER HAD BEEN HANDLED; BUT SAID HE WOULD AGREE TO THE TSGCEE DOING THE WORK PROVIDED THAT THE TSGCEE KEPT THE AHC FULLY INFORMED, AND THAT THE AHC COULD PASS JUDGMENT ON THIS WORK. THERE WAS NO FURTHER DISCUSSION BY THE COMMITTEE.

3. ON TACTICAL AIRCRAFT REARMING, THE AHC AGREED, AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSION, THAT THE CNAD SHOULD TAKE THE LEAD, IN CONFIDENTIAL

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CLOSE COORDINATION WITH THE MAS, ON THE TASK OF CONDUCTING LOADING TRIALS WITH NEW WEAPONS AND AIRCRAFT AS THEY ARE INTRODUCED. IN ADDITION, THE AHC AGREED WITH THE US SUGGESTION (STATE 155904) THAT WG/2 FURTHER DEFINE THE SUBSIDIARY TASKS CONTAINED IN AC/297-R/13, FOR CNAD AND MAS ACTION. WG/2 WILL ADDRESS THIS SUBJECT DURING ITS MEETING IN SEPTEMBER.

4. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CNAD AD HOC STUDY GROUP (PERRY,UK) ON A PERIODIC ARMAMENTS PLANNING SYSTEM (PAPS) REPORTED ON THE STATUS OF THAT GROUP'S WORK ON PROCEDURES TO ENSURE ADEQUATE INTEROPERABILITY OF FUTURE EQUIPMENT. PERRY NOTED THAT, AS A RESULT OF FOUR RECENT MEETINGS OF THE STUDY GROUP, DISCUSSION ON PAPS PHASE I, WHICH IS ESSENTIALLY THE AHC'S PROCEDURES FOR FUTURE INTEROPERABILITY, IS COMPLETE. THE STUDY GROUP WILL MEET AGAIN ON 12 JULY TO AGREE THE WORDING OF ITS REPORT, AFTER WHICH, IT WILL BE FORWARDED TO CAPITALS FOR COMMENT. PANSA NOTED THAT THE TIME SCHEDULE WILL ALLOW THE AHC TO DISCUSS THE REPORT IN SEPTEMBER.

5. PANSA THEN TURNED TO A DISCUSSION OF THE NATO LONG-TERM INITIATIVES AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO THE FUTURE OF THE AHC. HE SUMMARIZED THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE WORK OF THE AHC'S

WORKING GROUPS AND SAID THAT THE AHC SHOULD BEGIN WRAPPING UP ITS UNFINISHED TASKS AND ARRANGE TO PASS THEM TO OTHER NATO BODIES, IF NECESSARY. HE SAID HE BELIEVED THIS COULD BE COMPLETED BY MID-DECEMBER. AT THAT TIME, THE AHC SHOULD CONSIDER RECOMMENDING TO MINISTERS THAT IT ASSUME SOME DORMANT STATUS -- AS YET TO BE DETERMINED. HOWEVER, HE NOTED, IF IT IS DETERMINED BY THE DPC AND/OR THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AT THE MAY SUMMIT, THAT THE AHC CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE TO THE NATO LONG-TERM INITIATIVES TASK FORCE ON RATIONALIZATION, THE AHC SHOULD BE READY TO COME BACK INTO EXISTENCE

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AND RENDER THAT ASSISTANCE.

6. THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE SAID HE COMPLETELY AGREED WITH PANSAS ANALYSIS OF THE PRESENT STATUS OF WORK. ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT YET BEEN AUTHORIZED TO EXPRESS AN OFFICIAL FRENCH POSITION ON THE NATO LONG-TERM INITIATIVES, HE BELIEVED THAT FRANCE WANTED SOMETHING BETWEEN FULL PARTICIPATION IN AND

TOTAL ABSTENTION FROM THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATO INITIATIVES TASK FORCES. IN ADDITION, HE BELIEVED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD PROBABLY WISH THE AHC TO REMAIN THE COMPETENT BODY ON INTEROPERABILITY QUESTIONS, EVEN TO THE POINT OF HAVING FINAL
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ACTION ON RELEVANT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NATO INITIATIVES TASK FORCES. HE SAID THE FRENCH DESIRE IS FOR THE AHC TO CONTINUE ITS WORK UNDER MODALITIES WHICH HAVE TO BE ESTABLISHED.

7. THE NETHERLANDS' REPRESENTATIVE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THE FRENCH PROBLEM ON THE NATO LONG-TERM INITIATIVES TASK FORCES, BUT THAT THE MOMENTUM OF THE AHC CANNOT BE MAINTAINED. AFTER ITS INITIAL WORKLOAD IS COMPLETE, THE AHC SHOULD DISBAND. HE ESTIMATED THIS COULD OCCUR IN DECEMBER. ALTHOUGH HE COULD NOT YET GIVE AN INSTRUCTED VIEW, HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE NETHERLANDS WOULD NOT SUPPORT INSERTING THE AHC INTO THE DECISION PROCESSES OF THE NATO INITIATIVES TASK FORCES. THE BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE (QUANIER) SUPPORTED THE NETHERLANDS STATEMENT.

8. THE US REPRESENTATIVE MADE THE FOLLOWING THREE POINTS: (A) HIS UNDERSTANDING WAS THAT THE STATEMENTS BY VARIOUS REPRESENTATIVES AT THE MEETING DID NOT REPEAT NOT CONSTITUTE A DECISION BY THE AHC TO DISBAND IN DECEMBER; (B) THE AHC WILL NEED TO SEE WHERE IT STANDS WITH RESPECT TO ITS WORK BEFORE ANY FIRM RECOMMENDATION CAN BE MADE TO MINISTERS ON ITS FUTURE; (C) THE AHC WAS NOT THE BODY TO DECIDE WHAT ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE NATO LONG-TERM INITIATIVES SHOULD BE. PANSAGREED.THERE WAS NO OTHER BUSINESS. STREATOR

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